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July 23, 2007

Dr. Robin Staffin
Associate Director
Office of High Energy Physics
Office of Science
Department of Energy

Dr. Tony Chan
Assistant Director for Mathematical and Physical Sciences
National Science Foundation

Dear Robin and Tony,

At the HEPAP meeting on July 13, 2007, the report of the University Grants Program Subpanel (UGPS) was presented. The document is a thorough assessment of the state of the university program and what is required for its health. The subpanel recommends some increase in funding to reverse the decade-long decline in the number of research personnel and to better enable U.S. physicists to work offshore. It also recommends some structural changes to provide the agencies continuing input on the health of the university program and to provide experimenters with a clear process for consideration of smaller initiatives.

HEPAP strongly supports the UGPS report, having approved it unanimously. HEPAP and I are ready to work with you on an optimum implementation plan. I hereby officially transmit the report to you.

Sincerely yours,



Melvyn J. Shochet
HEPAP Chair